

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 118308

64

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CCO-00 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 PER-01 OPR-02 A-01 FS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 /072 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:LMRIVES:JY

APPROVED BY ACTING SECRETARY

EA:RHMILLER

EA/EX:EECHAMPAGNE

S/S :REWOODS

S/R/ORM:LAWIESNER

----- 114460

O 210051Z MAY 75 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL UDORN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 118308 TOSEC 010107

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, LA

SUBJECT: E AND E: US PRESENCE IN LAOS

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FOR CHARGE FROM ACTING SECRETARY

CANBERRA FOR HABIB

REF: A. VIENTIANE 3494; B. STATE 114561 (NOTAL)

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1. WE AGREE THAT WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO ASSUME AN

EMERGENCY EVACUATION SITUATION IN LAOS AND THAT PRESENT SITUATION IN VIENTIANE IS NOT COMPARABLE TO THAT WHICH OCCURRED IN EITHER SAIGON OR PHNOM PENH. WE ALSO AGREE THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN UNRAVELLING SITUATION IN LAOS THAT COULD ADD TO DANGER TO AMERICANS REMAINING THERE. NEVERTHELESS, BEGIN IMMEDIATELY A SIZEABLE THINNING OUT OF US PERSONNEL TO INCLUDE ALL DEPENDENTS AND NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL. YOU SHOULD BEGIN WITH THOSE PERSONS EVACUATED FROM THE PROVINCES AND PERSONNEL LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY CUT BACKS IN BOTH MAP AND AID PROGRAMS. DEPARTURES SHOULD BE EFFECTED IN AS ROUTINE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER AVOID CREATING A PANIC ATMOSPHERE.

2. YOU SHOULD SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MAY 22, A DETAILED PLAN FOR THE FOREGOING, TOGETHER WITH A REPORT OF DEPARTURES TO DATE. THEREAFTER, YOU SHOULD SUBMIT A WEEKLY REPORT ON PERSONNEL WHO HAVE DEPARTED AND NUMBERS REMAINING IN LAOS.

3. IN REPLY TO SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED PARA 8A, REF A, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO INITIATE FORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH UNHCR ALONG PROPOSED LINES, (SEPTTEL FOLLOWS).

4. RE PARA 8B, REF A, STATE 114561 AUTHORIZES DEPENDENTS WHO DEPART VIENTIANE TO COLLECT SEPARATE MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES. NO EMERGENCY HAS TO BE DECLARED IN ORDER FOR THEM TO BECOME ELIGIBLE. WOULD REITERATE THAT ALL US AGENCIES INSIST THAT SAFEHAVEN BE IN THE UNITED STATES. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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